

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, amend the title to read "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CLEANING CONTAMINATED OIL".

Please amend paragraph [0008] as follows:

[0008] Vacuum purifiers are also subject to foaming within the vessels as water is vaporized within the oil. This foam has a lower specific gravity than the oil and can cause malfunctioning controls and a reduction in the performance of the purifier. Due to their ability to remove free, emulsified or dissolved water from oil, vacuum dehydration oil purifiers have become the desired method for water removal from oil. The drawbacks associated with vacuum oil purifiers have prohibited these purifiers from being widely used and/or the purifiers are not practical on the majority of lubrication or hydraulic systems. Because of their relatively large size and costs, they are limited to non-mobile, stationary applications, and are not practical for use on mobile equipment. Further due to their high capital cost, they are typically not permanently installed in a system unless it is a relatively large, expensive lubrication or hydraulic system. Instead, they are usually shared by several systems by using one to purify the oil on one machine or reservoir for a period of time, and then by moving it to another machine, etc. When the purifier is being used in this manner, the oil in the machines that are not connected to the purifier can become contaminated with water. This oil will remain contaminated until the purifier can be reattached to them and the oil dehydrated again.

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Please amend paragraph [003³⁶/1] as follows:

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[003³⁶/1] Reference will now be made to the following drawings which illustrate [[a]] preferred embodiments of the invention. The embodiments have been described primarily in relation to the cleaning of oils. The apparatus of the invention however may be applied to cleaning a large range of liquids and thus the reference to oil should be taken as a reference to all liquids unless the context suggests otherwise. In the drawings:

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Please amend paragraph [004~~5~~] as follows:

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[004~~5~~] The outlet of the heater 21 is connected through pipeline 23 to a centrifuge 24. An in-line particle counter 25 is provided in the pipeline 23. The centrifuge 24 is mounted directly on a vacuum chamber 26 of a vacuum dehydration unit such that oil is discharged from the base 27 of the centrifuge 24 directly into the chamber 26. The chamber 26 has a vacuum suction port 28 and is connected to a suitable vacuum source such as a venturi. A free water trap 29 is connected through the base of the vacuum chamber 26 to a lower portion of the chamber 26 by which free water within the cleaned oil in the chamber 26 can be removed. An outlet of the trap 29 is controlled by a valve 30.

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Please amend paragraph [005~~6~~] as follows:

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[005~~6~~] The apparatus 10 functions so that any of the three main processes (vacuum dehydration chamber 26, oil centrifuge 24 and heater 21) can be operated at the discretion of the operator. The processes may be activated ~~of~~ or deactivated at any stage. The system 50 may allow the oil to proceed through all three processes or any combination thereof. The pumps 29 and 35 are provided to allow the transport of the oil into the system, out of the system and around the system and the valves 13 and 37 may be operated to allow the apparatus 10 to operate as an in-line system or a re-circulating system treating oil stored in the holding tank 11.

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